

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line number 5 on page 7, which begins "FIG. 2 is a", with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 2A and 2B are charts illustrating ~~FIG. 2 is a chart of~~ the results of the effect of 1% (by weight of lead oxide) of the battery paste additive on industrial paste and plate curing for a first sample;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line number 8 on page 7, which begins "FIG. 3 is a", with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 3A and 3B are charts illustrating ~~FIG. 3 is a chart of~~ the results of the effect of 1% (by weight of lead oxide) of the battery paste additive on industrial paste and plate curing for a second sample;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line number 15 on page 7, which begins "FIG. 6 is a", with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 6A and 6B are charts illustrating ~~FIG. 6 is a chart of~~ the effect of 1% (by weight of lead oxide) of the battery paste additive on automotive paste and plate curing for a third sample;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line number 13 on page 22, which begins "As can be seen in FIGS. 2-14," with the following amended paragraph:

As can be seen in FIGS. 2-14, the resultant battery pastes with the additive demonstrated improved characteristics over known battery paste compositions. FIGS. ~~[[2]]~~ 2A, 2B and ~~[[3]]~~ 3A, 3B show in chart form the results of the effect of 1% of the battery paste additive on industrial paste and plate

curing for a first sample (~~Figure 2~~) and a second sample (~~Figure 3~~), versus a control sample. ~~FIG. 2 presents~~ FIGS. 2A and 2B present data for five trials as well as the averages of those trials. ~~FIG. 3 presents~~ FIGS. 3A and 3B present data for the three trials of the paste with the additive as well as the averages, and one trial of the control sample. The charts shown in FIGS. 2A, 2B and 3A, 3B show the amount of the tetra lead oxide, ortho lead oxide, tetra basic lead sulfate and tribasic lead sulfate at varying periods during the paste mixing and curing process, measured in percent content amounts. ~~FIG. 3 also shows~~ FIGS. 3A and 3B also show the percent lead (Pb) content at varying periods during the paste mixing and curing process. The experimental samples demonstrated significantly higher tetra basic lead sulfate content at the time intervals between the end of paste mixing and during curing. As can be seen from the data in the figures, significantly greater TTBLS is formed during paste mixing, as well as during curing, in paste mixes containing the additive than those without the additive.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line number 19 on page 23, which begins "FIG. 6 shows in chart form", with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 6A and 6B show ~~FIG. 6 shows~~ in chart form the effect of 1% of the battery paste additive on automotive paste and plate curing of a third sample. The charts shown in FIGS. 6A and 6B show ~~chart shown in FIG. 6 shows~~ the amount of the tetra lead oxide, ortho lead oxide, tetra basic lead sulfate and tribasic lead sulfate at varying periods during the paste mixing and curing process, measured in percent content. FIGS. 6A and 6B also show ~~FIG. 6 also shows~~ the percent lead (Pb) content at varying periods during the paste mixing and curing process. The experimental samples having the additive demonstrated significantly higher tetra basic lead sulfate content at the time intervals between the end of paste mixing and during curing, for various trials, as well as the averages for those trials.